

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, and 10-14 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-2, 4-8, 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly rendered obvious by U.S. Patent No. 6,353,762 to Baudino ("Baudino") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,969,388 to Goldman ("Goldman") and U.S. Patent No. 7,047,084 to Erickson ("Erickson"). Applicants traverse this rejection. Without even addressing the substance of this rejection, Applicants submit that Erickson is not prior art against the present application. Erickson has a filing date of November 20, 2002. The present application claims priority to Provisional Patent Application Nos. 60/391,260 and 60/391,261, both filed on June 24, 2002. As such, the priority date of the present application pre-dates the filing date of Erickson. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of this rejection since neither Baudino and Goldman describe a lead that is quarter-round shaped as recited directly or indirectly by claims 1, 2, 4, and 5.

Regarding claims 6-8 and 10-12, the Examiner has not indicated how any of these references describe a guide that includes an electrode disposed thereon. Applicants submit that none of Baudino, Goldman or Erickson describes this claim limitation. As such, Applicants request withdrawal of this rejection with respect to claims 6-8 and 10-12.

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 6 stand rejected for being allegedly rendered obvious by Baudino in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,029,091 to de al Rama ("de al Rama"). It appears that these claims are rejected in further view of Erickson, but Applicants request clarification. If so, Applicants traverse this rejection. As stated above, Erickson is not prior art against the present application. As such, Applicants request withdrawal of with respect to claims 1, 2 and 4.

With respect to claim 6, also as stated above, the Examiner has not indicated how any of these references describe a guide that includes an electrode disposed thereon. Applicants submit that none of Baudino, de al Rama or Erickson describes this claim limitation. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of this rejection with respect to claim 6.

CONCLUSION

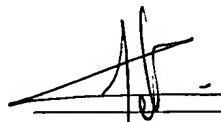
Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative to discuss any issue that would expedite allowance of this application.

No extensions of time or other fees are required in connection with the filing of this response. However, any such fees are hereby petitioned and the Commissioner is authorized to charge all required fees, fees under § 1.17, or all required extension of time fees, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600 (Kenyon & Kenyon LLP).

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON LLP

Date: Aug. 29 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Zeba Ali', is written over a horizontal line.

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